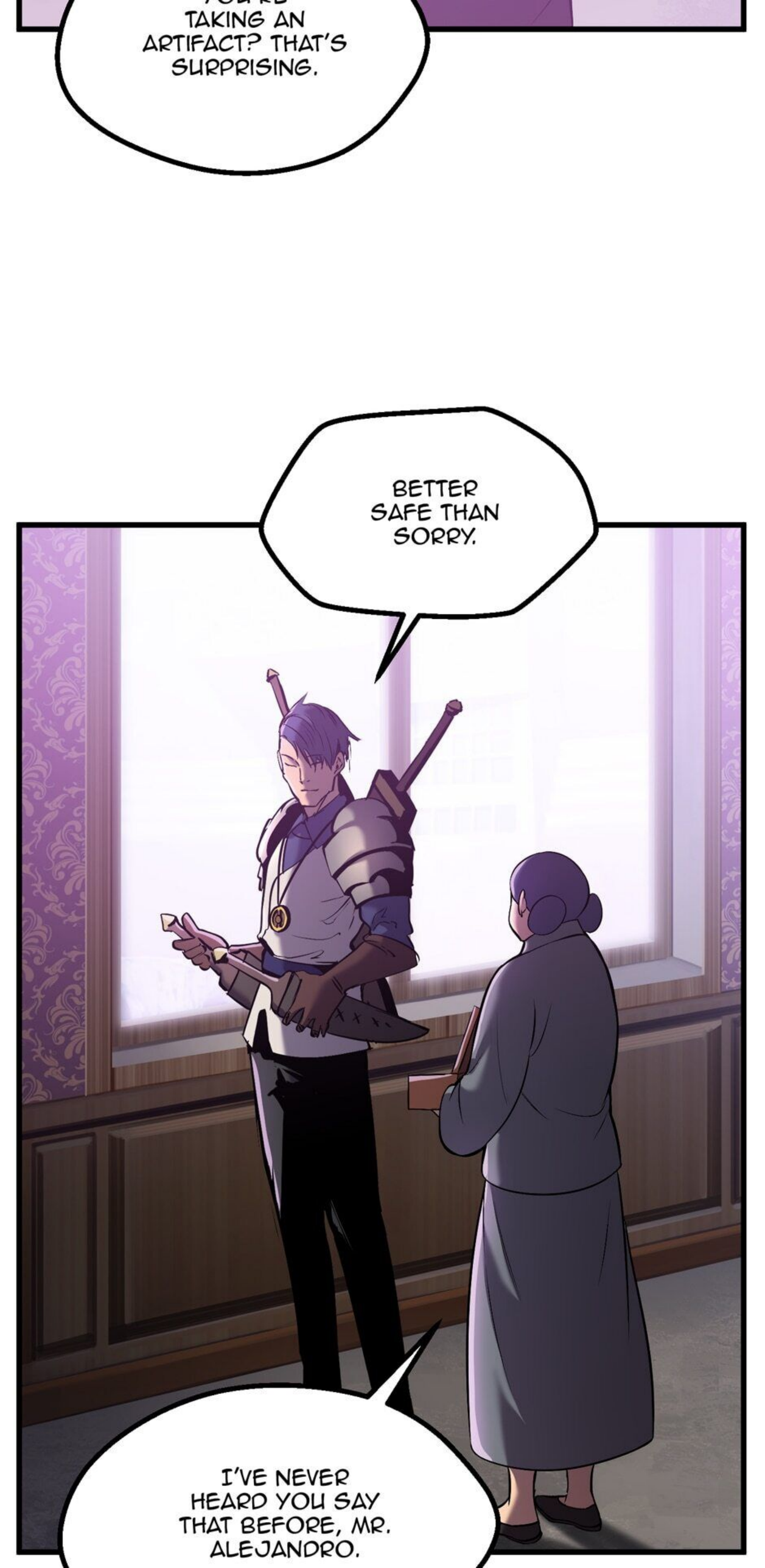
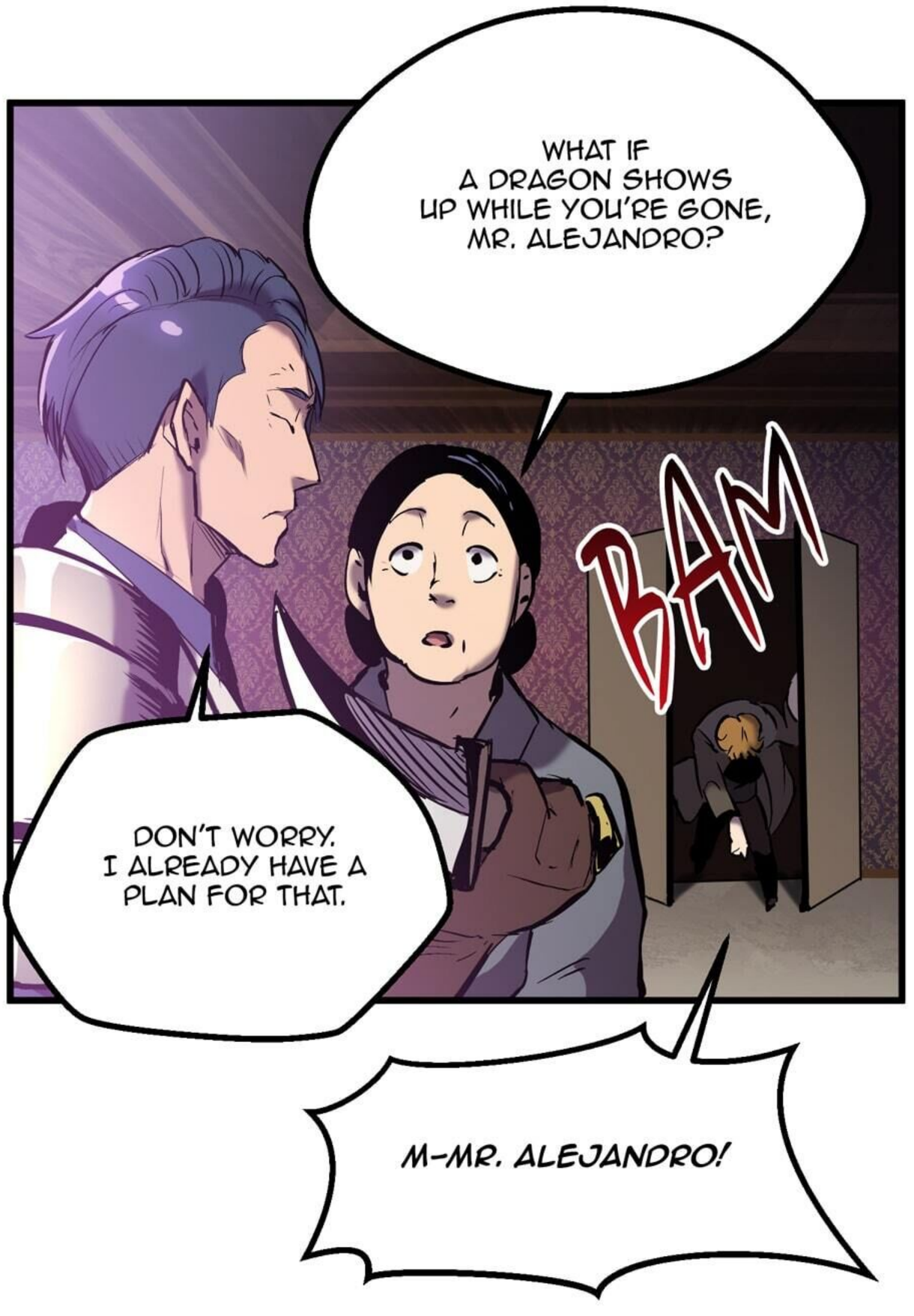
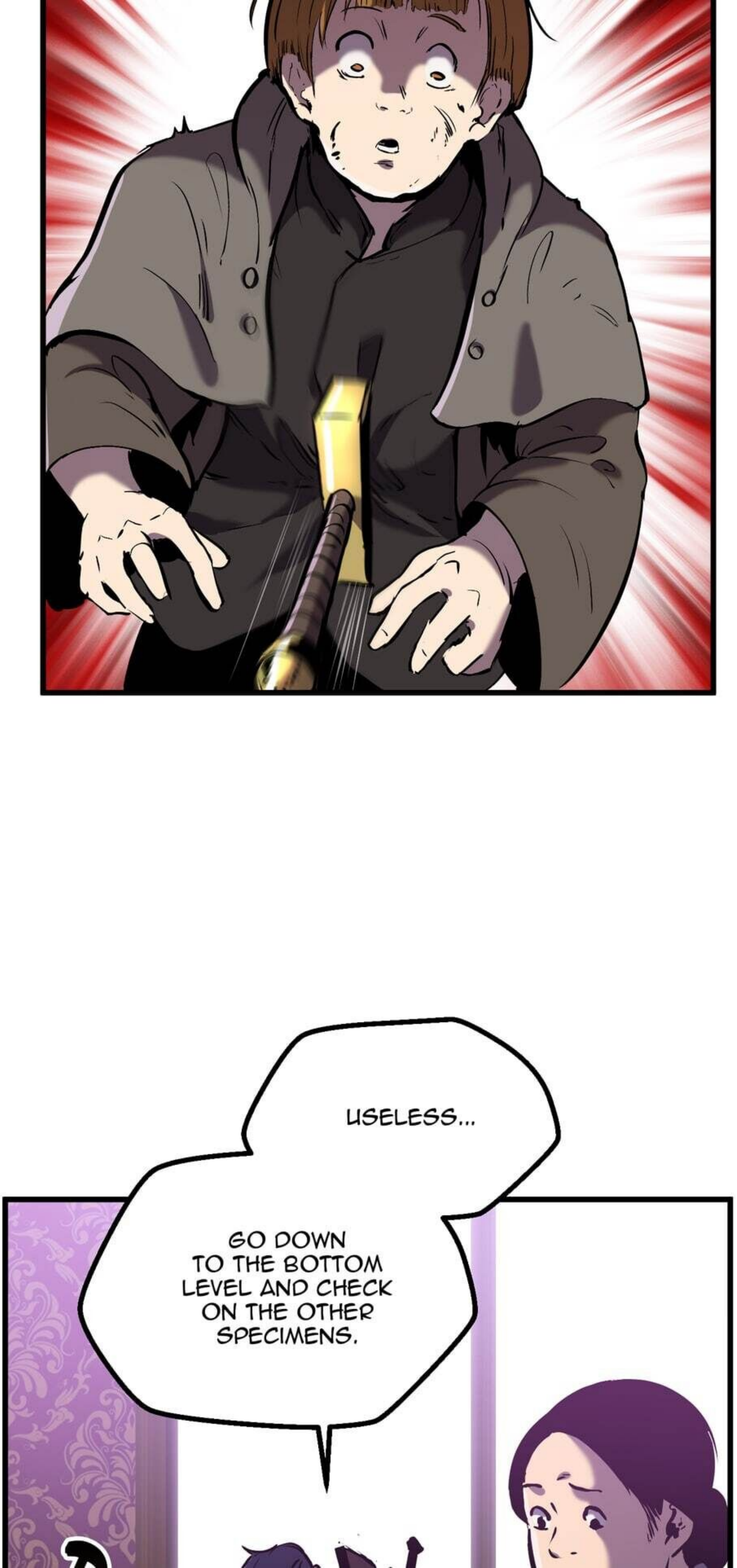
YOU'RE


TAKING AN ARTIFACT? THAT'S SURPRISING.
BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY.
I'VE NEVER HEARD YOU SAY THAT BEFORE, MR. ALEJANDRO.

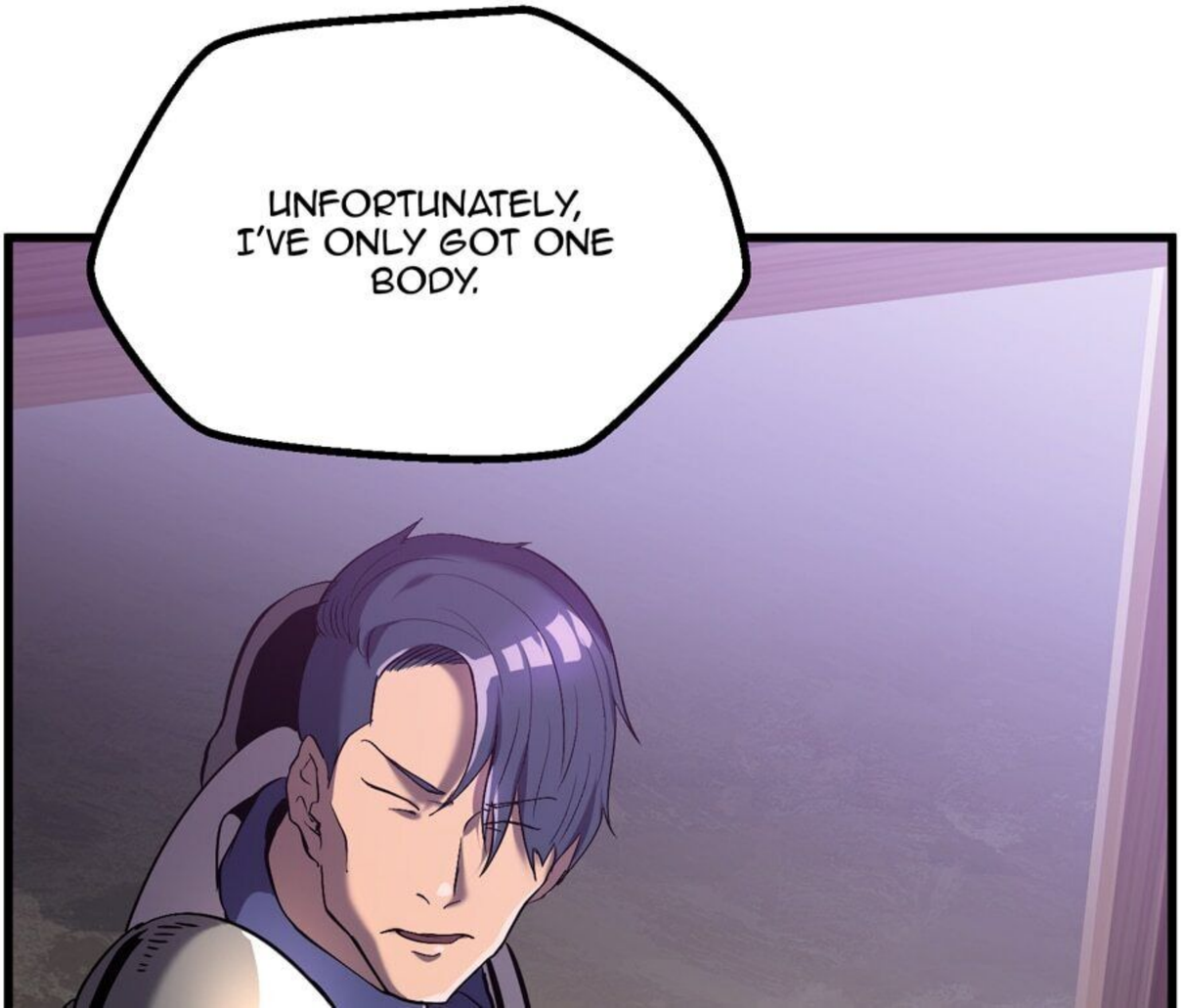
WELL...
IT SEEMS LIKE AN INQUISITOR OR SOMETHING EVEN MORE ANNOYING GOT IN THE MIX THIS TIME.
I SHOULD GET RID OF IT SINCE WE'RE ALMOST DONE WITH OUR PREPARATIONS HERE.


WHAT IF A DRAGON SHOWS UP WHILE YOU'RE GONE, MR. ALEJANDRO?
BAM
DON'T WORRY. I ALREADY HAVE A PLAN FOR THAT.
M-MR. ALEJANDRO!

BUT A TEST SPECIMEN ESCAPED ABOVEGROUND...!
SHLUK


USELESS...
GO DOWN TO THE BOTTOM LEVEL AND CHECK ON THE OTHER SPECIMENS.

PLOP
DON'T YOU THINK YOU SHOULD GO THERE PERSONALLY TO KEEP THINGS UNDER CONTROL?


UNFORTUNATELY, I'VE ONLY GOT ONE BODY.

I'LL BE BUSY TAKING CARE OF SOMETHING ON THIS SIDE.

LATNA

SAGA

SURVIVAL OF A SWORD KING

Original Novel : YKB
Story & Art : SOON-Q

Translation:
Kristianna Lee & Mina Son

Typesetting: Joh-Lize Viljoen

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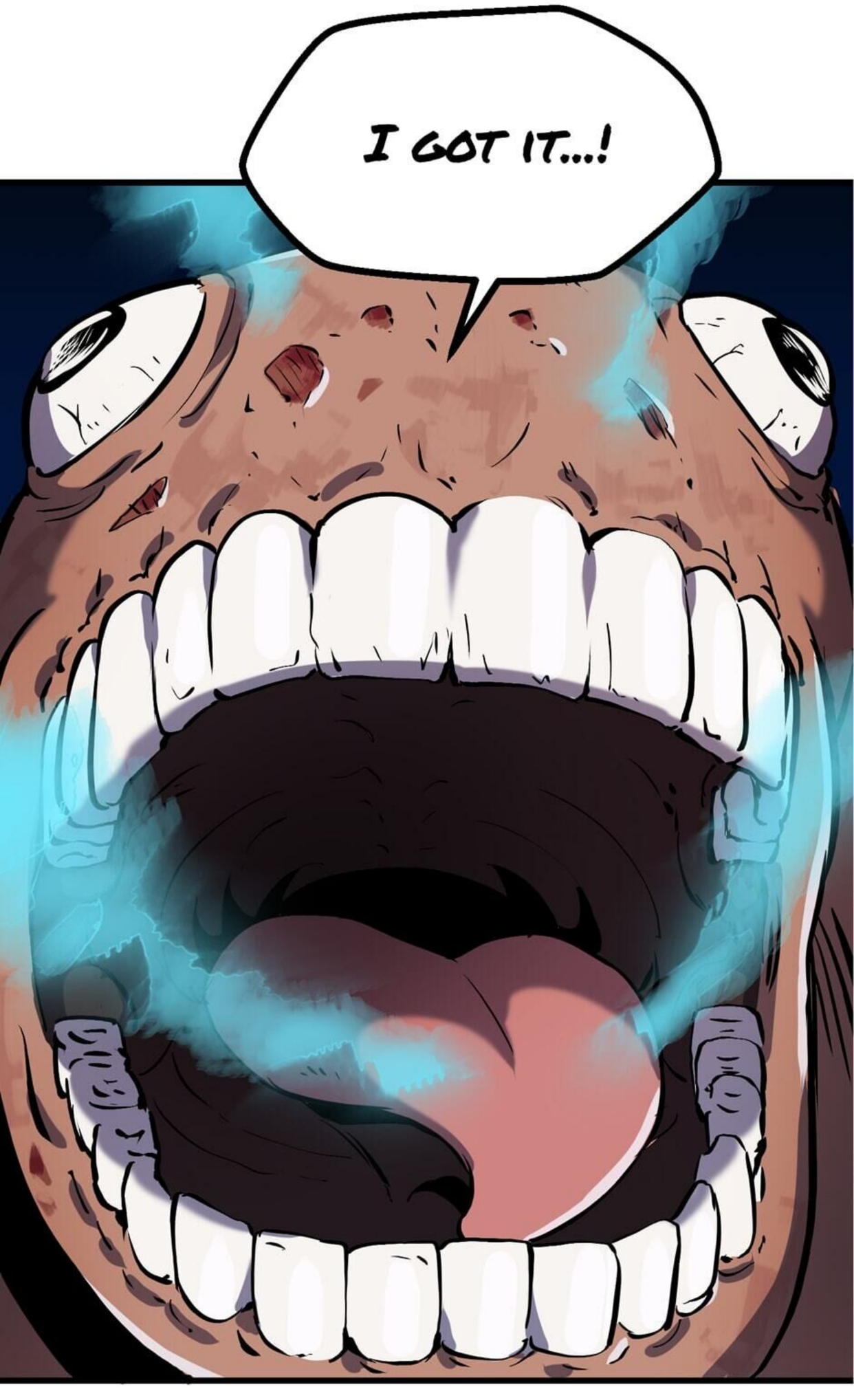
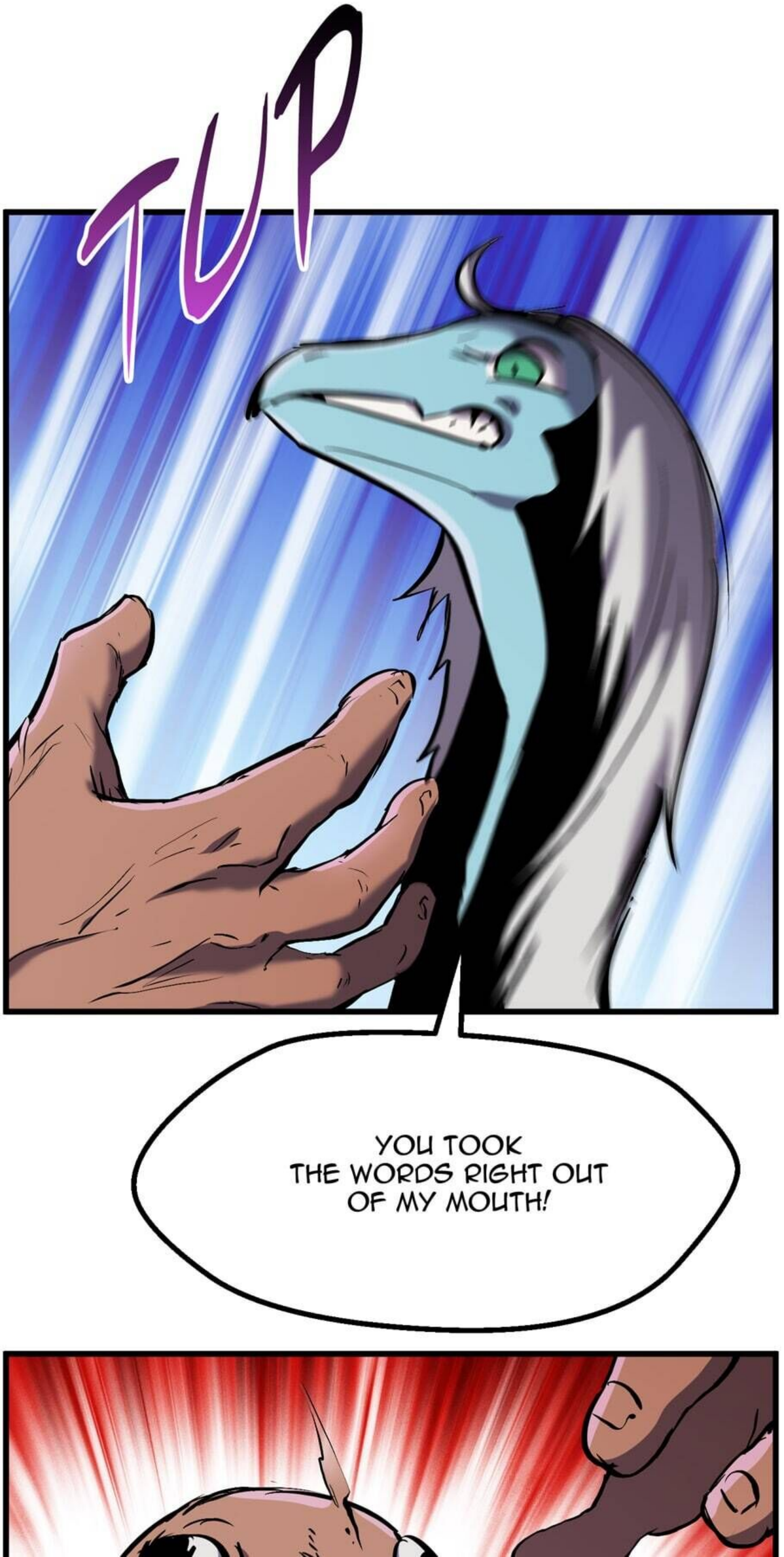
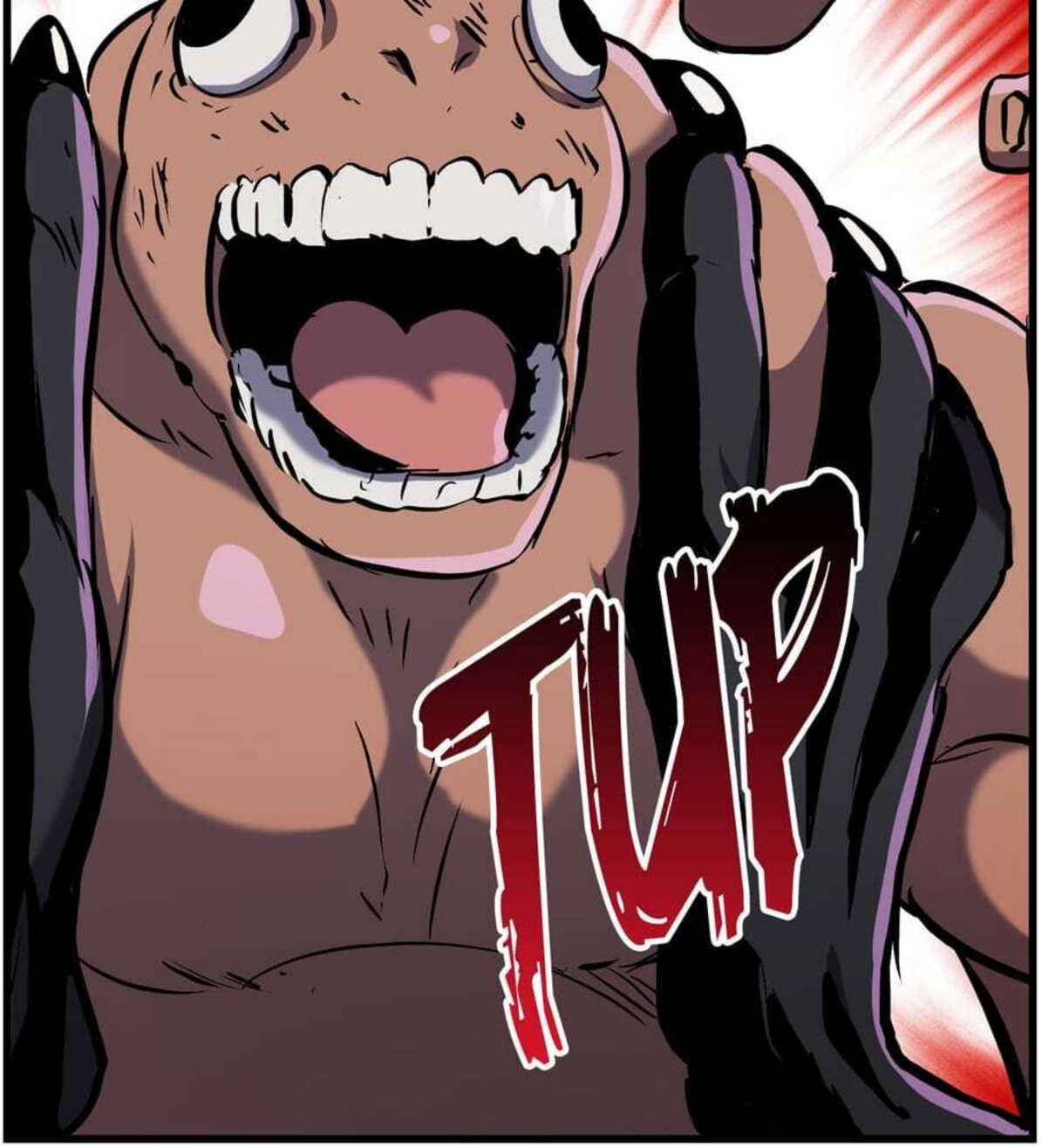

I GOT IT...!


TUP
YOU TOOK THE WORDS RIGHT OUT OF MY MOUTH!

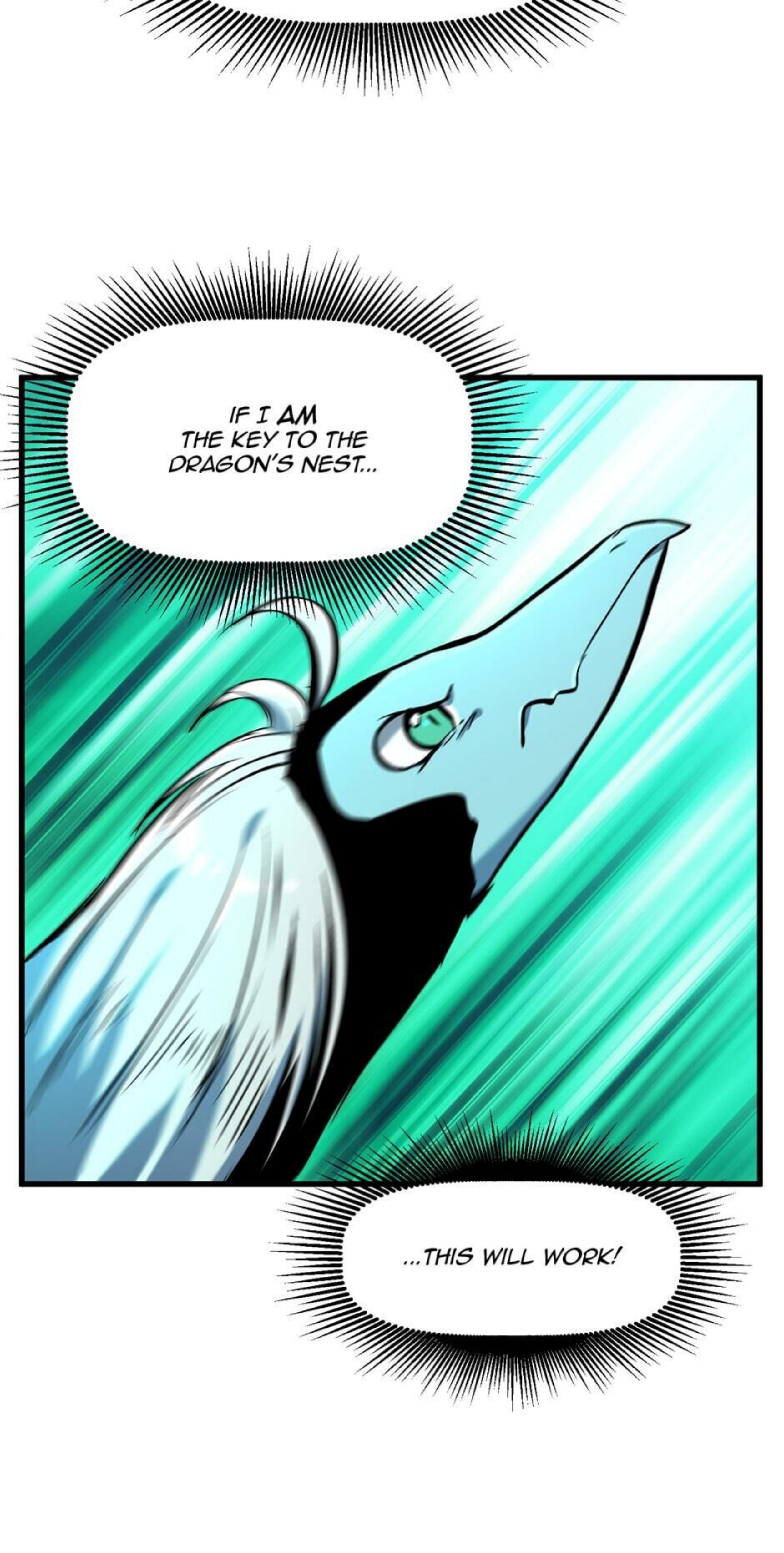

TUP

WHOOSH

EPHYR! WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
COME BACK DOWN, EPHYR!

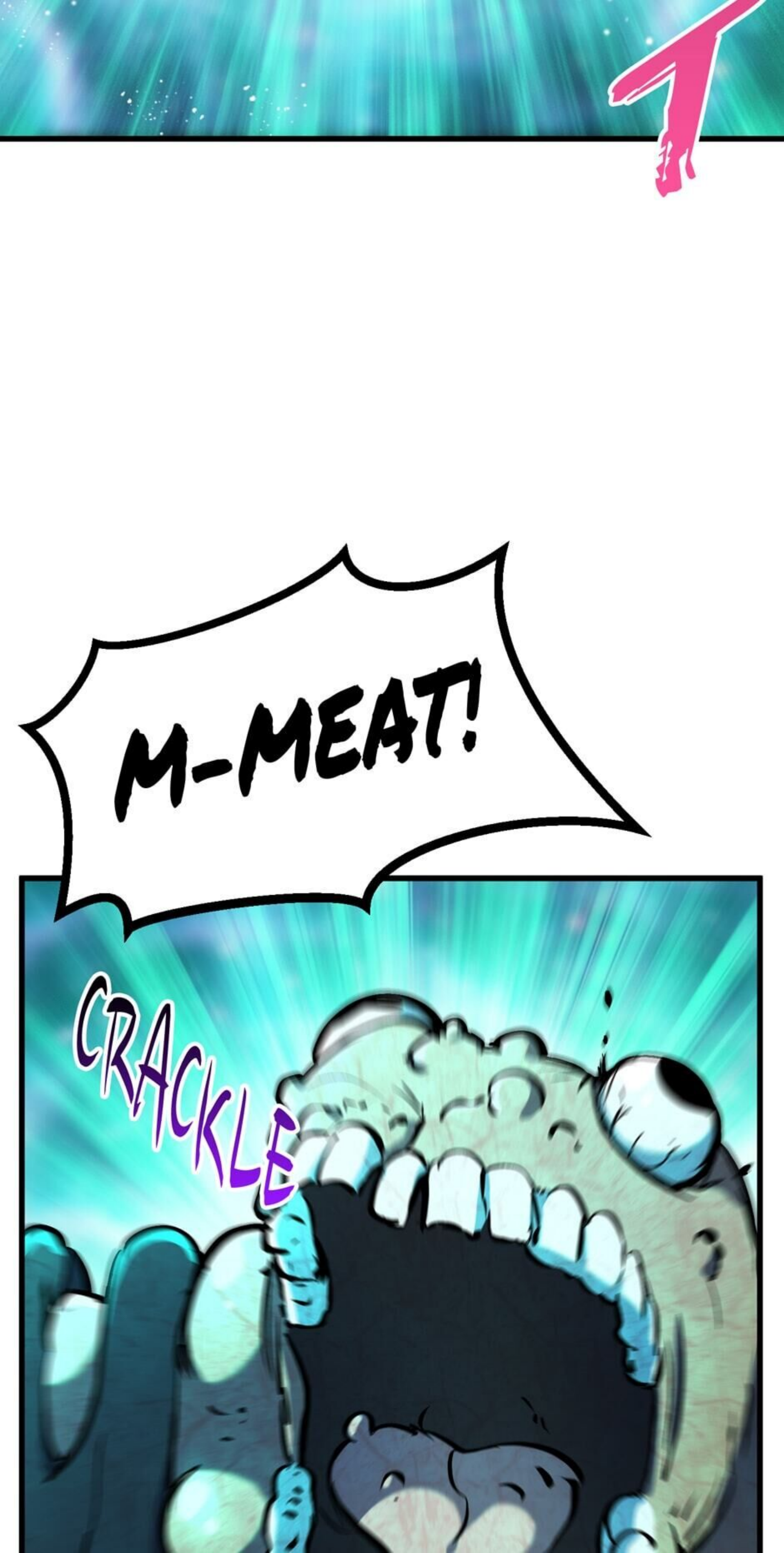
NO WAY...

SHWOONG
IS SHE PLANNING ON USING THE DRAGON'S NEST...?


IF I AM THE KEY TO THE DRAGON'S NEST...
...THIS WILL WORK!

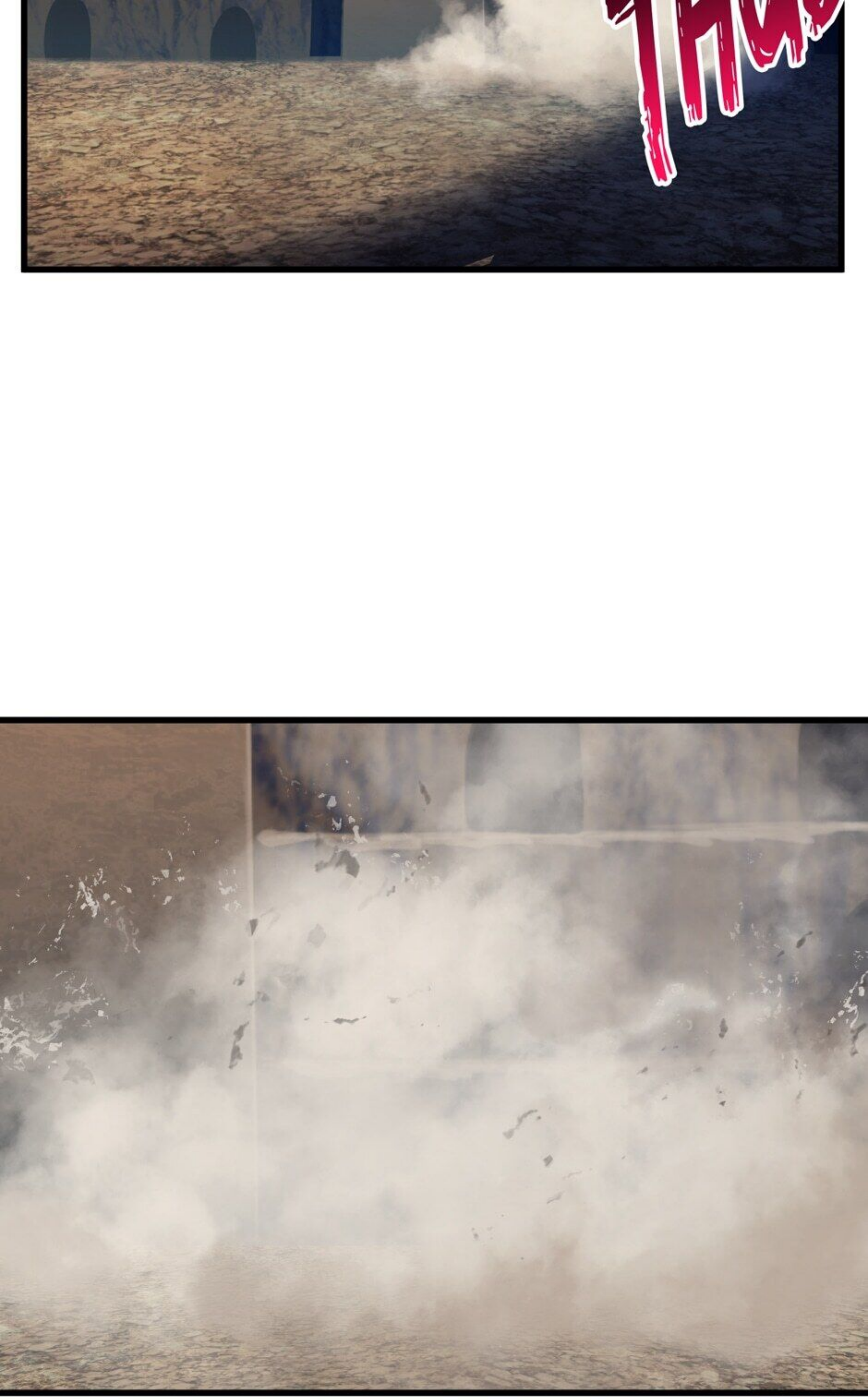
WOONG
WOONG

ZZZZZZ


M-MEAT!
CRACKLE

CRACKLE
FLASH

BOOM
SHWOO
THUD



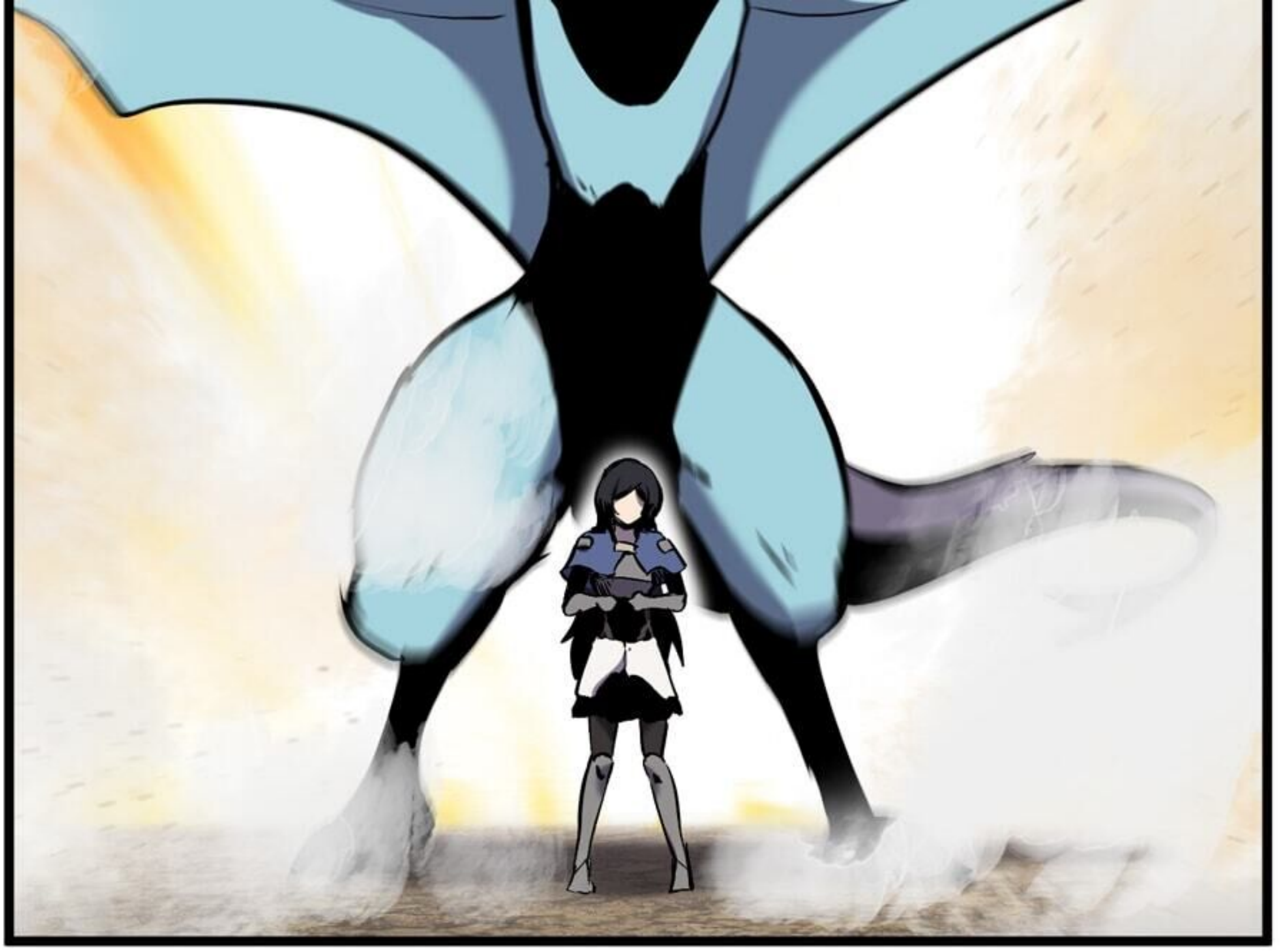
EPHYR!
EPHYR!

EPHYR!

EPHYR!
ANSWER ME!

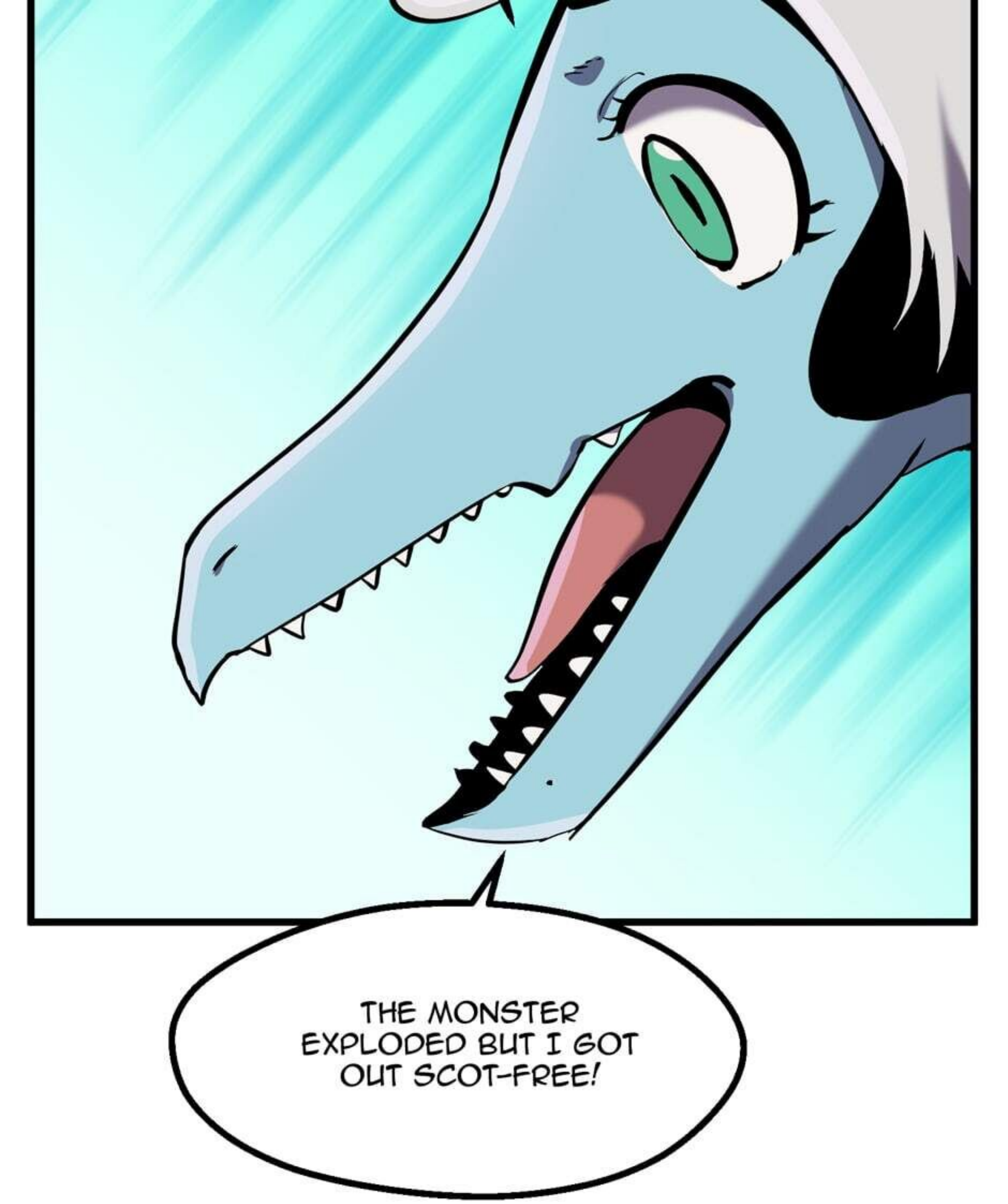
ACK!

FLAP



ELLIE! ELLIE! DID YOU JUST SEE THAT?

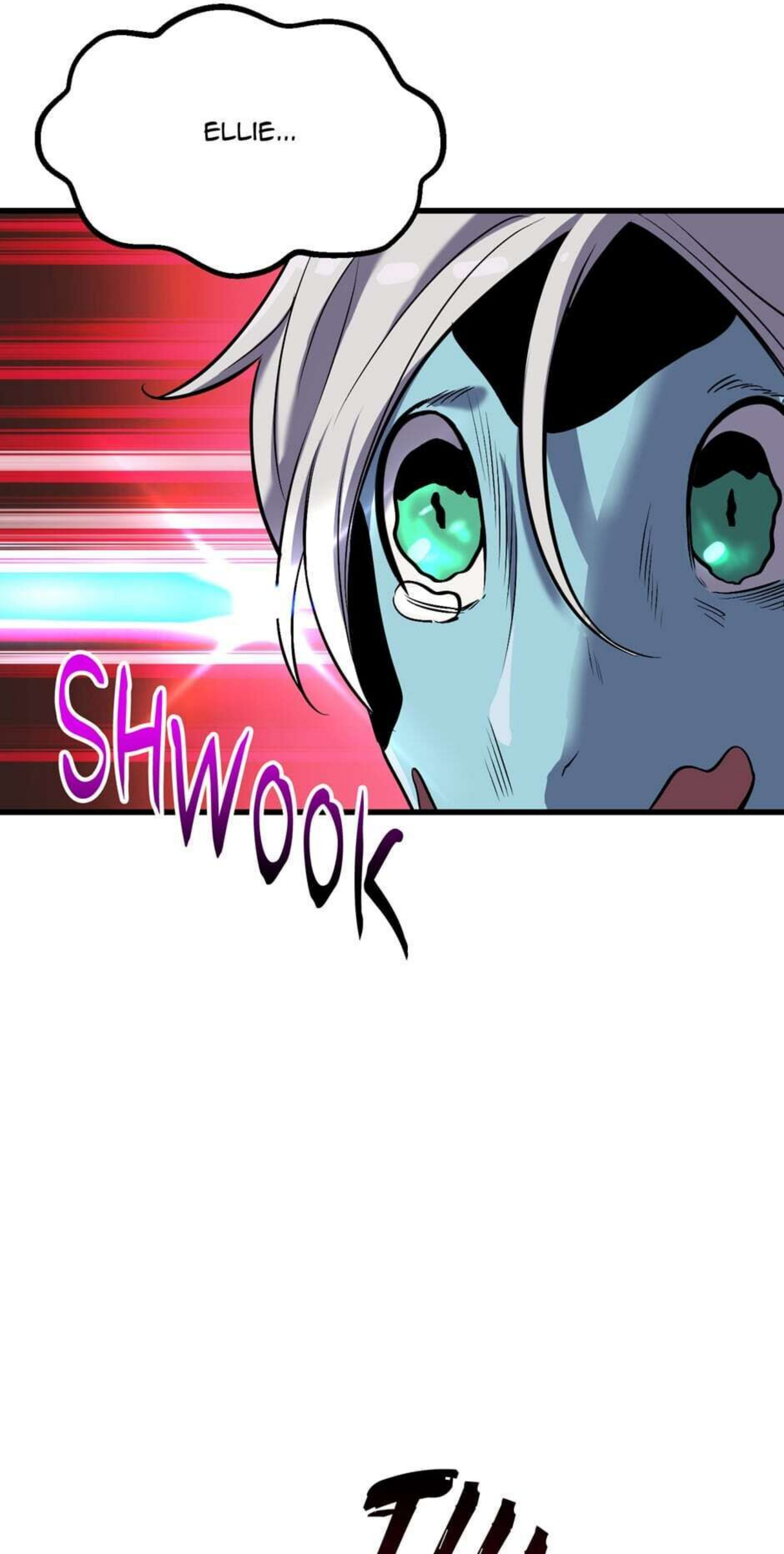
I DID IT!


THE MONSTER EXPLODED BUT I GOT OUT SCOT-FREE!

WE DON'T NEED MISS ARTIS' HELP ANY--
SLAP

ELLIE...
GET OUT OF HERE NOW!

HURRY!!

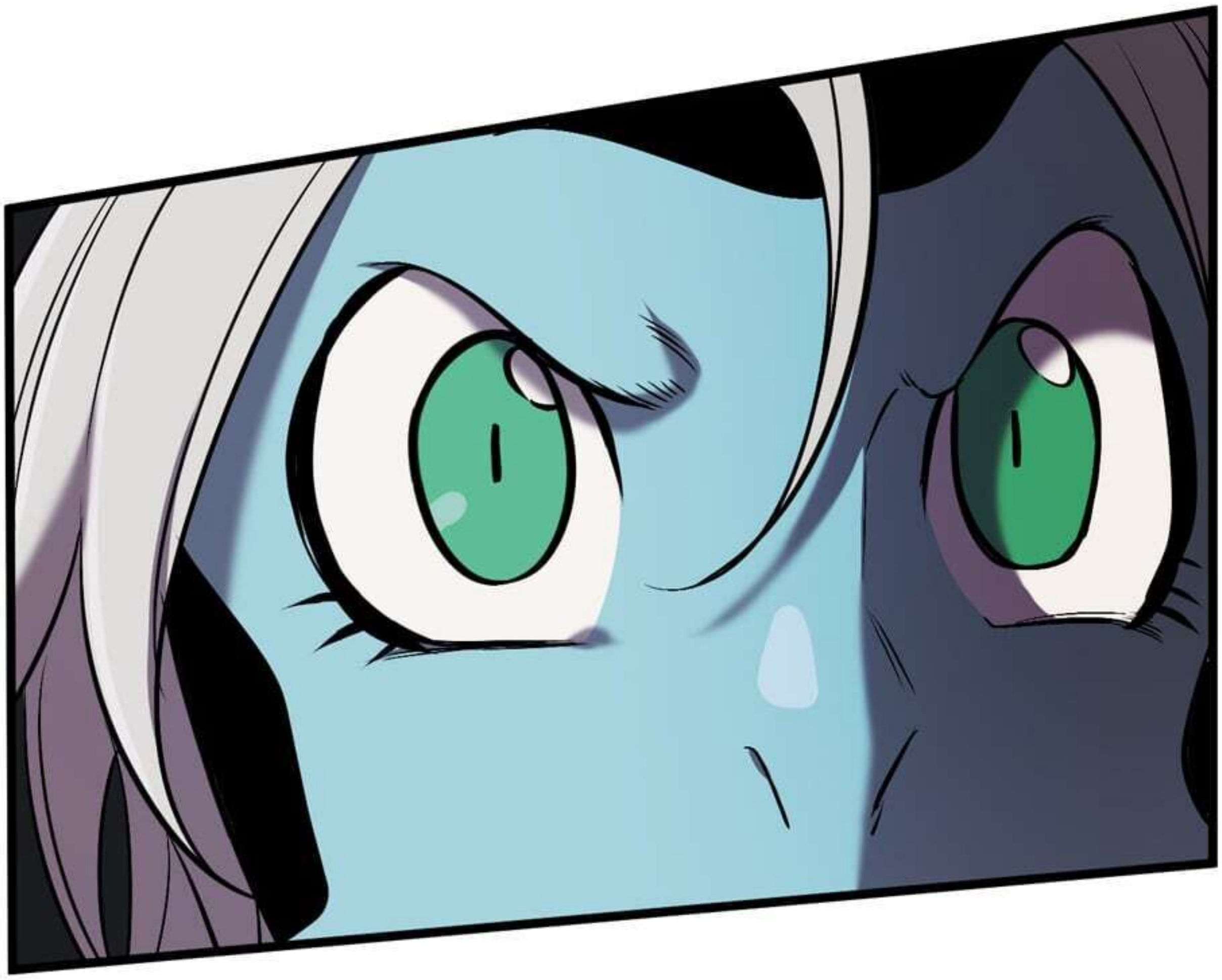

ELLIE...
SHWOOK

ING
FWICK

...I THOUGHT YOU WERE JUST PLANNING TO ESCAPE IN AN ORDINARY WAY.

BUT, ELLIE, I HAD

NO IDEA...
VZZZT
VZZZT
...THAT A DRAGON CORE WAS INSIDE THAT WYVERN!



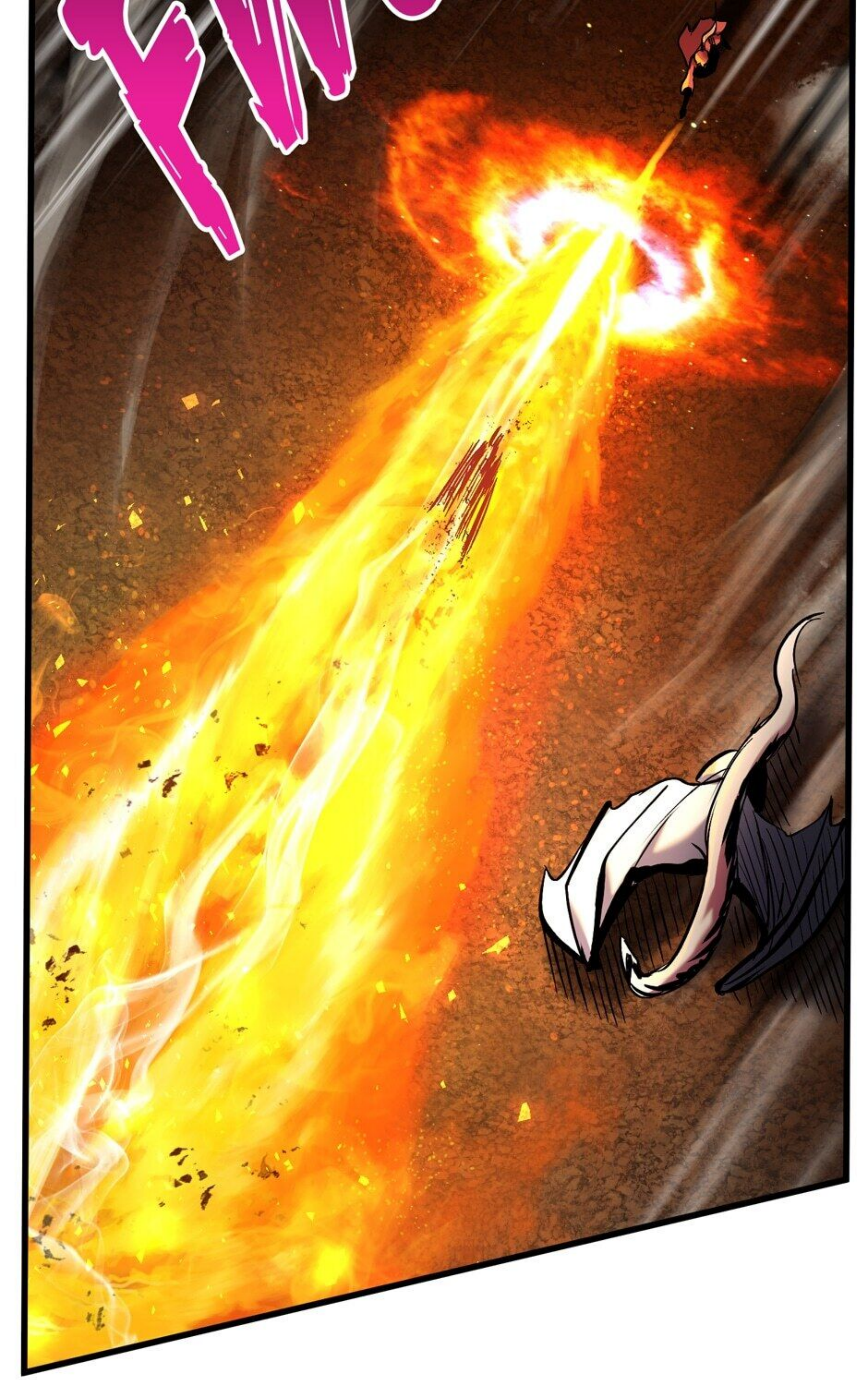
WHAT WERE YOU PLANNING ON DOING? ABSORB THE ENERGY FROM THE DRAGON'S NEST WITH ITS DRAGON CORE?

ELLIE...
I TOLD YOU
ONCE BEFORE.

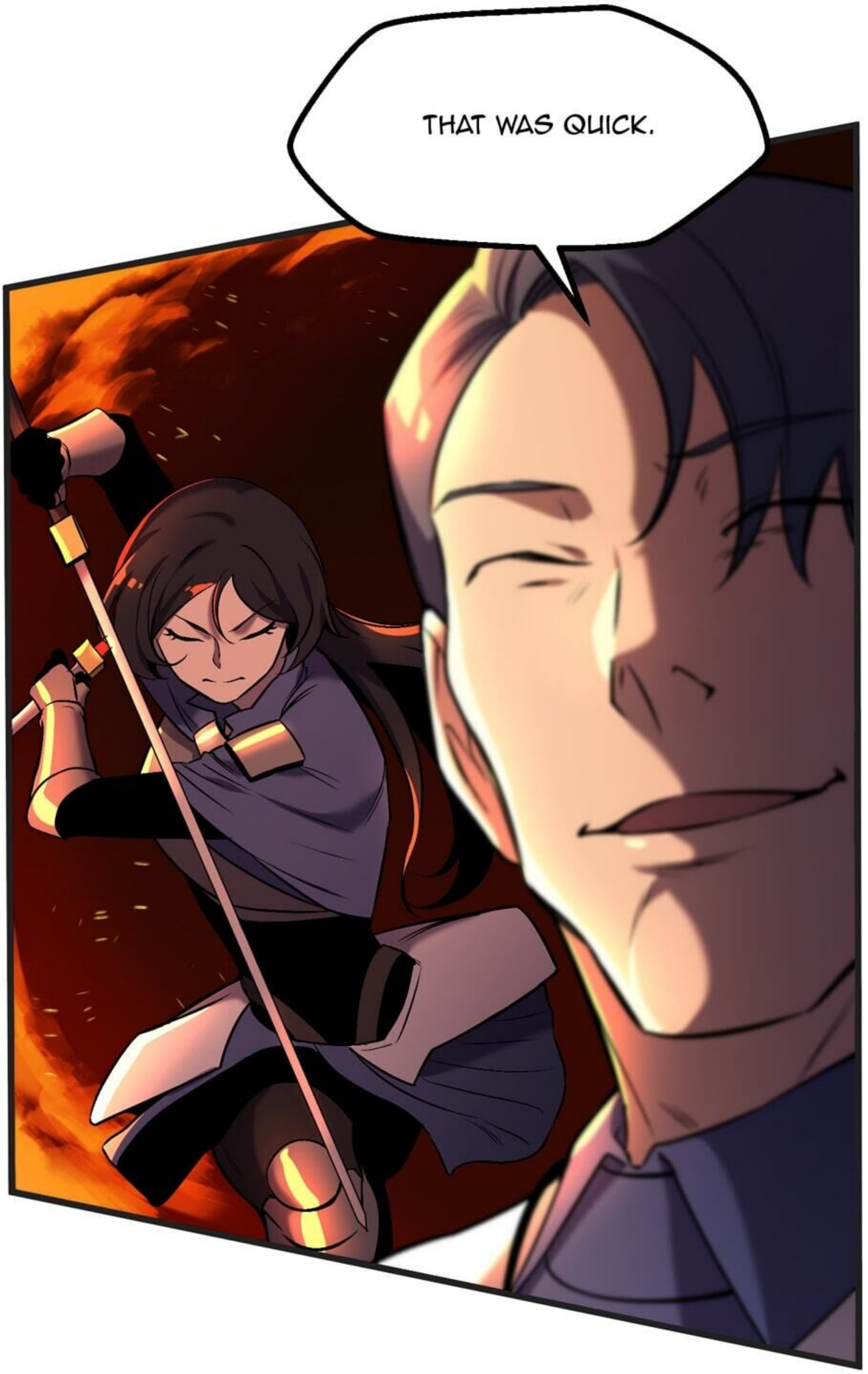
THERE WOULDN'T BE A SECOND TIME.

EPHYR!

MOVE AWAY!


FIN

FWICK
YOU GOT THAT GIRL TO BE ON YOUR SIDE ALREADY?


THAT WAS QUICK.

CLANG

EPHYR!! IT'S ALL OVER IF HE GETS YOU!
HURRY!

WOOSH

GING
VZZZT

KLLLT
KLLLT

FWAAA

BOOM

FLASH

CRACK

GRAAARGH

ALL WE KNOW ABOUT THE DRAGON'S NEST IS THAT IT'S IN THE ROCKY PART OF THE MOUNTAINS...
...BUT IT ALL LOOKS THE SAME!
LOOK CLOSELY. ISN'T THIS A SIMILAR ENVIRONMENT TO YOUR HOME?

OH, THAT'S RIGHT. ISN'T THIS ALL BECAUSE OF A SPY WHO HAS NO IDEA WHERE THE ENEMIES ARE STATIONED?
MAYBE YOU'RE FORGETTING THE FACT THAT I'M A HIGH-LEVEL PRIEST.
IF EVERYONE INFILTRATES BEHIND ENEMY LINES, WHO WILL REPORT BACK TO THE TOP?

ON TOP OF THAT, I WAS THE CONTACT POINT FOR THOSE WHO WERE INSIDE.
HEY, ANT. YOU'RE SURE THE DRAGON'S NEST IS THIS WAY?

MEEEEE~?

ITS INTELLIGENCE LEVEL DROPPED SO LOW THAT IT CAN'T UNDERSTAND HUMAN LANGUAGE ANYMORE.

SPIN

SPIN

ITS OUTER APPEARANCE COMPLETELY CHANGED INTO THAT OF A MONSTER'S TOO...

THERE'S NO WAY WE CAN FIND THE DRAGON'S NEST LIKE THIS.

LET'S GO BACK AND GET REINFORCEMENTS FROM THE

NOM NOM NOM

WHY ARE YOU BEING SO RELAXED AND ACTING LIKE YOU'RE FEEDING A PET, VALTARAN?!
MAYBE THIS THING CAN REMEMBER WHERE IT CAME FROM IF I REMIND HIM WITH A TASTE OF HOME.
THAT *THING* WAS HUMAN TO BEGIN WITH! WHY WOULD IT BE REMINDED OF HOME JUST BY EATING SOME GRASS?

WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ABOUT WHETHER OR NOT MR. ARTIS SUFFERED IN THE HANDS OF THAT ANT BUT...
...HAVE YOU THOUGHT ABOUT WHAT MR. ARTIS MIGHT BE GOING THROUGH AT THIS MOMENT WHILE YOU'RE WASTING TIME LIKE THIS?

HAA...

I UNDERSTAND IT'S NOT SOMETHING I SHOULD BE SAYING SINCE I WAS THE ONE IN CHARGE OF THIS OPERATION...

NO, I'M NOT MAD AT YOU.

YOU KNOW... I TOLD HIM HE'D GET HIMSELF KILLED BEFORE HE LEFT.

I WAS TREATING HIM LIKE HE WAS ALREADY TOO WEAK TO HANDLE IT.

I STILL DON'T THINK I WAS WRONG TO SAY THAT
AND I ENDED UP BEING RIGHT ANYWAY.
BUT LOOKING BACK...

...I WAS JUST MAKING UP AN EXCUSE TO STOP HIM FROM GOING SO MY LIFE WOULDN'T BE SO TROUBLESOME.
PFFFT.
WHAT'S SO FUNNY?

I THOUGHT VALTARANS WERE SAVAGES WHO ONLY CARED ABOUT BLOOD AND GUTS...
...BUT YOU'RE GENUINELY

WORRIED ABOUT HIM LIKE A FRIEND!

YOU'RE MUCH DIFFERENT FROM WHAT I'VE HEARD.

I-I'M NOT WORRIED! ***BLOOD AND GUTS ARE THE BEST!***

KRAKA
BOOM

WAS THAT LIGHTNING?
NO, IT SHOT UP FROM THE GROUND.
THEN... A MAGICAL BATTLE?

BATTLE.
IF WE CAN SEE IT FROM THIS FAR...
...IS IT ALEJANDRO?!
NOW WE CAN GO BACK TO THE CHURCH AND ASK FOR REINFORCEMENT!

YOU... YOU PLAN TO GO ALONE...?!

KKK

CRASH

FWOOO

RED DOG
CULTURE HOUSE

LATNA
SAGA
SURVIVAL OF A SWORD KING